

ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 59

This measure does not go far enough in guaranteeing the people access to information and documents possessed by state and local government agencies.

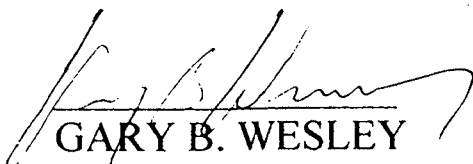
In fact, this measure only provides for a general "*right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business*" and that laws in California "*shall be broadly construed if it furthers the people's right of access, and narrowly construed if it limits the right of access.*"

Laws are construed (i.e., interpreted) by officials charged with following them - and by courts when asked. The rule of interpretation contained in this measure would probably have a very limited effect.

Indeed, this measure explicitly states that it does not supersede or modify any "*right to privacy guaranteed by Section 1*" of Article I of the California Constitution.

While a right to privacy - especially against government intrusion - is critical in today's society - government employee groups are using the state constitution's "right to privacy" to hide the amount of money, benefits and perks they receive at public expense!

Proposition 59 may be better than nothing, but it does not go far enough. The question is whether to vote "yes" and hope for more or vote "no" and demand more.


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